

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Alabama Department of Public Safety

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### **Motorists Urged to Exercise Caution, *Be Alert to Winter-weather Roadway Hazards***

MONTGOMERY — With rain and colder temperatures predicted statewide, Alabama's state troopers urge all motorists to drive with extreme caution in the event they encounter hazardous and wintry driving conditions.

Troopers offer the following tips to help ensure safe winter travel:

- ◆ Adapt speeds to existing roadway conditions, and be alert to changing weather and the possibility of icy, slippery roads, especially on bridges and overpasses. Remember that weather and roadway conditions can change quickly.
- ◆ During inclement weather, turn on headlights and windshield wipers and keep a safe distance between your vehicle and other motorists.
- ◆ Keep your vehicle in good operating condition. Check antifreeze levels and use windshield washer solution suitable for freezing weather conditions. Keep gas tanks at least half full.
- ◆ Avoid travel, if possible, when icy or other extremely hazardous driving conditions develop in your area.
- ◆ Keep blankets, a first-aid kit and other emergency supplies in your vehicle.

Troopers advise that local news outlets are usually the best source of up-to-date information on weather conditions and travel advisories. Motorists are encouraged to contact trooper posts only in case of emergency. Motorists with cell phones may dial \*HP (\*47) toll-free to report roadway emergencies to a state trooper post.

The Department of Public Safety Web site, <http://dps.alabama.gov/>, includes a link to the ALDOT's list of emergency road closures.

1-16-08



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